

# INFORMATION LETTER

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NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

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## WFA AND OPA ANNOUNCE GROWER PRICES FOR PACIFIC COAST FREESTONE PEACHES GROWN FOR PROCESSING

**Processors' Ceilings to be Based on \$54 Per Ton for California and \$60 for Other Two States**

Average grower prices that will be used in establishing processors' ceiling prices for the 1944 pack of canned and frozen freestone peaches produced in three Pacific Coast States were announced July 28 by the War Food Administration and the Office of Price Administration.

Grower prices not to exceed \$54 per ton for Elberta and Hale varieties and \$47 per ton for Lovells and other varieties of peaches packed in California and \$60 per ton for peaches packed in Washington and Oregon are being used by OPA in constructing processors' ceiling prices. However, the method being used by OPA should permit the payment of normal price differentials for the different grades and varieties of raw fruit normally purchased by processors.

Processors have normally paid different prices for the two varieties of peaches customarily purchased in California and for the two grades customarily purchased in Washington and Oregon. On the basis of the data regarding prices paid in recent years a price schedule which represents the prices for raw fruit that west coast processors should be able to pay under their 1944 ceiling price structure was established. WFA officials said that the payment of grower prices in accordance with those established in the following schedule should result in an average grower price in California of \$54 per ton and in the Northwest of \$60 per ton for freestone peaches used for canning and freezing if the proportion of grades and varieties delivered to processors is about normal. Prices by grades and varieties are as follows:

CALIFORNIA	Per ton
Elberta.....	\$54
Other varieties.....	47
WASHINGTON AND OREGON	
No. 1 grade.....	60
No. 2 grade.....	39

California freestone peaches must be 2½ inches and larger in diameter. In Washington and Oregon No. 1 grade peaches of the Elberta variety are 2½

inches and larger in diameter, and of the J. H. Hale variety 2¾ inches and larger. No. 2 grade peaches are 2¼ inches and larger and 2¼ inches and larger for the Elberta and J. H. Hale varieties, respectively.

The grower prices for freestone peaches for these States are at growers' customary delivery points and are based on the customary grading procedures and the customary tolerances for defective or small-sized fruit. In California a tolerance of 5 per cent is customarily allowed for peaches that are not of canning quality or are less than 2½ inches in diameter, if not less than 95 per cent of the delivery meets the grade and size requirement.

WFA stated that canners' eligibility for participation in the support program on canned freestone peaches, fruit mix and fruit cocktail containing freestone peaches produced in the 3 Pacific Coast States would be conditioned on

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## Pears for Table Use Placed under Price Control by OPA

Fresh pears sold for table use have been brought under price control for the first time by the Office of Price Administration through Amendment 43 to Maximum Price Regulation 426. The new maximum prices, effective July 25, cover the entire season and apply to all sales except those made by retail stores.

From the beginning of the season to September 10, the f.o.b. prices for pears produced in California and in the counties of Josephine and Jackson in Oregon are \$3.60 per standard pear box, per one-way lug, or two half-boxes with a net weight of not less than 46 pounds nor more than 50 pounds; \$1.50 per Washington pear lug with a net weight of not less than 19 pounds and not more than 21 pounds, and 7½ cents per pound for pears graded and packed in all other containers. In line with these prices are f.o.b. ceilings named in the amendment for pears produced in other areas. Monthly increases based on storage charges are provided for pears sold after September 10.

## Subsidy Contracts Mailed

Copies of the subsidy agreement between the Commodity Credit Corporation and canners, the general features of which were outlined in last week's INFORMATION LETTER, are being mailed this week direct to canners concerned. The Association plans to publish in next week's INFORMATION LETTER an article dealing with legal considerations involved in the agreement.

## Campbell is Named Executive Assistant to the Secretary

Carlos Campbell, Director of the Association's Division of Statistics, was named Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the Association, at a meeting of the Interim Committee held at Chicago on July 26th.

Eldon E. Shaw, Principal Agricultural Economist in the Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Office of Distribution, War Food Administration, will join the Association's staff on August 1 as Assistant Director of the Division of Statistics.

Walter H. McDonald has been appointed Assistant Director of the Information Division, succeeding Nelson H. Budd, who has resigned to enter the trade publishing field in San Francisco. Mr. McDonald was formerly Information Specialist in the War Food Administration. Mr. Budd's long editorial experience in the canning trade journal field made his services of exceptional value to the Association.

## Report on Nutrition Research

As a Supplement to INFORMATION LETTER No. 995 for July 22, the Association has sent to all members a report on the research program on the nutritive value of canned foods in order that the industry may be informed as to the progress on this work, which is sponsored by the National Canners Association in cooperation with the Can Manufacturers Institute. If any member has failed to receive the Supplement, a copy will be mailed upon request to the Association.

## JUNE FOOD DELIVERIES

### Lend-lease and Other Programs Take 24 Per Cent Less than in May

June deliveries of food and other agricultural products under the Lend-lease and other war programs totaled 806,942,740 pounds, or about 24 per cent less than in May. The following table shows the canned products delivered at ship side for export under the Lend-lease Act during June and the first six months of the year:

Commodity	June Pounds	Jan.-June Pounds
Milk:		
Condensed.....	3,094,044	9,362,441
Evaporated.....	51,675,606	219,914,343
Meat products.....	48,775,698	282,593,648
Fruit:		
Apples.....		361,130
Apricots.....	2,923,816	5,968,140
Cherries.....		1,960
Figs.....	1,043,196	3,638,938
Fruit cocktail.....	442,763	8,493,120
Grapefruit segments.....	447,465	4,196,998
Peaches.....	4,230,988	22,401,856
Pears.....	514,370	8,325,838
Pineapple.....	850,090	12,716,990
Prunes.....	1,874,206	2,071,414
Juices:		
Grapefruit, concentrated.....		196,726
Orange, concentrated.....	2,142,931	21,537,404
Orange, unconcentrated.....		3,000
Tomato.....		2,415,341
Vegetables:		
Beans, green.....	1,094,836	23,808,049
Beets.....	1,949,337	3,695,634
Carrots.....	1,118,484	5,365,465
Peas.....	5,560,568	36,970,677
Potatoes.....	17,317,547	41,938,762
Spinach.....	48,280	2,254,668
Tomatoes.....	3,507,781	10,846,412
Tomato paste.....	439,664	11,180,944
Tomato puree.....		1,545,296
Soup.....	41,529	2,416,669

Destinations of June deliveries were: British Empire, 58 per cent; Russia, 32 per cent; and other claimants, including Greece, North and West Africa, and the French Committee of National Liberation, 10 per cent.

### Fish Production up over Last Year, Federal Survey Shows

Production in the major U. S. fisheries made encouraging increases during the first six months of 1944 as compared with 1943, although catches of a few important species are lagging behind last year's figures, the Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries reported July 26.

The California tuna fishery, enjoying its best year since 1940, furnishes one of the most important increases. Landings during the first six months were 50 per cent larger than last year, totaling 52,948,000 pounds, while the canned pack reached 1,149,370 cases, a gain of 61 per cent.

Less successful than the tuna industry, the Pacific mackerel fishery is having a relatively poor year. Landings amounted to 7,868,000 pounds for the first half of the year, as against 9,007,524 in 1943. The canned pack showed a corresponding decrease: 84,982 cases compared with 95,790.

The Maine sardine industry has already packed 1,110,000 cases, or an increase of 35 per cent over its production of canned fish last year.

In the Gulf area, shrimp and oysters declined while crabs made important gains. Because of labor difficulties and a scarcity of shrimp, production in the important shrimp fishery is 28 per cent behind last year, with 73,340 barrels landed as against 101,738 in 1943. Oysters fell from 689,491 barrels to 459,306; while crabs increased from 3,795,514 pounds to 5,115,180.

The Pacific coast pilchard fishery, which alone produces a fourth of the total poundage taken by U. S. fishermen, is inactive from April through July in California, the center of the fishery. From January through March, however, production amounted to 81,417 tons, or a decline of eight per cent compared with the same period in 1943.

### Stokely Acquires Crampton and W. R. Roach Canneries

Stokely Bros. & Co., Inc., announced on July 24 a plan whereby the company, in exchange for stock, will acquire all the properties of Crampton Canneries, Inc., including the latter's stock in the W. R. Roach Co., Grand Rapids, Mich. The announcement stated that the Crampton and Roach production organization will continue as in the past under the direction of H. F. Krimendahl.

### Alaska Salmon Pack Report

The following figures on the Alaska salmon pack, as reported by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, show the pack by regions and varieties through July 15, 1944:

REGIONS	1943 to July 17 Cases	1944 to July 15 Cases
Western Alaska.....	1,062,743	826,177
Central Alaska.....	712,137	494,328
Southeastern Alaska.....	223,690	174,184
Total.....	1,998,570	1,494,689
VARIETIES	1943 to July 17 Cases	1944 to July 15 Cases
Red.....	1,442,365	1,100,932
Pink.....	245,361	107,331
Chum.....	239,030	187,980
Coho.....	11,142	10,302
King.....	40,832	28,105
Total.....	1,998,570	1,494,689

## PROCESSING GREEN PEAS

### Indicated Production and Yields for 1944 are Reported by USDA

Production prospects for green peas declined slightly during the first two weeks of July and a total of 402,940 tons was indicated on July 15 for canning and freezing in 1944, according to the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This is 2 per cent less than the 1943 production of 410,670 tons, but exceeds the 10-year (1933-42) average of 260,260 tons by 55 per cent.

The July 15 indicated yield of 1,671 pounds per acre for 1944 compares with 1,883 pounds obtained in 1943. Lack of moisture during the first part of July in the territory from western Maryland to Minnesota and in the Northwest States reduced the prospective yields on the late crop. More favorable conditions prevailed in Wisconsin, New York and Pennsylvania, indicating yields above average for this season.

The following table shows the indicated production in 1944 compared with actual production in 1943.

State	1943 Tons	1944 Indl. Tons
Maine.....	4,810	4,130
New York.....	14,400	33,680
Pennsylvania.....	15,050	18,000
Ohio.....	4,440	4,560
Indiana.....	7,670	5,630
Illinois.....	18,320	11,440
Michigan.....	6,480	10,440
Wisconsin.....	130,630	122,400
Minnesota.....	30,220	28,400
Iowa.....	3,780	2,760
Delaware.....	2,340	2,540
Maryland.....	13,120	9,600
Virginia.....	3,100	2,000
Colorado.....	5,950	4,080
Utah.....	25,350	23,700
Washington.....	50,610	53,130
Oregon.....	51,090	47,290
California.....	5,650	4,300
Other States.....	17,670	13,550
Total.....	410,670	402,940

### Williams Succeeds Dodds

The War Food Administration has announced the resignation of John E. Dodds as Assistant Chief of the Office of Distribution's Fruit and Vegetable Branch, and the appointment of Paul M. Williams, Chief of the Branch's Processed Standardization and Inspection Division, as his successor. Mr. Williams will continue to supervise the work of the Standardization and Inspection Division. These changes are effective August 5. F. L. Southerland, Assistant Chief of the Processed Standardization and Inspection Division, will become Acting Chief of that Division.

## CITRUS HARVEST WAGE CEILINGS ESTABLISHED BY WFA FOR FLORIDA SAME AS THOSE IN EFFECT DURING 1943

The War Food Administration's Director of Labor has issued an order continuing in effect for the 1944-45 season the maximum wage rates established last year for agricultural workers engaged in the citrus fruit harvest in Florida. Harvesting begins the latter part of September or first part of October.

The new order (Specific Wage Ceiling Regulation No. 21, effective July 25) differs from last season's order in just two respects: (1) Loading operations are specified and a wage ceiling is set on each specific operation. (2) A requirement is added that all growers who employ workers directly, and independent labor contractors, are to keep records of all wage payments made for citrus harvest labor, and growers also are to keep records of payments made to labor contractors.

Maximum rates for loading tangerines, oranges and grapefruit, including customary distribution and picking up of empty boxes, are listed in the new order as follows: 70 cents per hour, or 1 cent per box loading from ground to "bunch" or "goat" trucks in grove; 1 cent per box stacking on these trucks in grove, when fruit is stacked in boxes; ½ cent per box for unloading from these trucks at roadside, to roadside truck; and ½ cent per box for stacking on roadside truck, when fruit is stacked in boxes.

"Bunch" and "goat" are colloquial names for small trucks used in Florida to carry boxes of citrus fruit out of the groves to the roadsides where they are then stacked onto regular size trucks.

The ceiling rate for driving these small trucks in the groves is 60 cents per hour, and the maximum picking rates, per standard field box, are: Tangerines, 30 cents; seedling oranges, 25 cents; oranges picked from canopy type budded orange trees requiring use of ladder 30 feet or more in length, 25 cents; budded oranges, 15 cents; grapefruit, 8 cents, and grapefruit picked and loaded in truck in bulk in grove, 8 cents per box or equivalent measure or weight. In cases of sparse crops, where the trees are large enough to require the use of a ladder for picking and the yield on the entire grove or parts of the grove consisting of solid blocks of trees and covering five or more acres is less than 40 field boxes per acre, a maximum of 75 cents per hour may be paid in lieu of the maximum piece rates for picking. The employer, however, must obtain the approval of the Florida WFA Wage Board chairman in advance of picking, to use this alternative rate.

The Director of Labor has revoked last year's order but reserved the right to proceed against anyone who allegedly has violated any of its provisions.

The Florida WFA Wage Board, located at Lake Wales, will administer the wage ceilings in accordance with the specific wage ceiling regulations issued by the War Food Administrator on January 20, 1944, as amended July 11, 1944. L. H. Kramer is the wage board chairman.

### GROWER PEACH PRICES (Concluded from page 8329)

the payment by canners to growers of not less than the prices specified in the above schedule for all purchases of freestone peaches.

An average grower price not to exceed \$60 per ton which is being used in 12 southeastern States in establishing processors' ceiling prices for the 1944 pack of canned and frozen peaches, has been extended to include all other States except Washington, Oregon, and California, the War Food Administration and the Office of Price Administration announced July 27.

Average grower prices of \$50 per ton for peaches packed in California and \$60 per ton for peaches packed in Washington and Oregon were announced previously.

Ceiling prices for processed peaches will be established on a formula basis this year. Since a period in 1941 will be the base period in establishing formula prices, raw material cost allowances in such ceilings will be based on grower price increases since that time, OPA said.

The \$60 per ton grower price for peaches is at the growers' customary delivery point and refers to the grade that is customarily contracted for and received by processors in each area. It is based upon the customary grading procedure and the customary tolerances for fruit not meeting contract specifications.

WFA stated that canners' eligibility for participation in the support program on canned peaches would be conditioned on payment by canners to growers of not less than \$60 per ton for all purchases of peaches for canning.

### Hearing on Salmon Rights

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes announced July 27 that hearings would be held in three Southeastern Alaska Indian villages in September to determine fishing and other occupancy

rights of the natives of these communities.

The hearings, which will be of considerable importance, both to the Indians and to the Alaska salmon industry, will be held at Hydaburg, September 15, at Klawock, September 20, and at Kake, September 25. The official who will hear the cases has not yet been selected.

### PROCESSING PEAR PRICES Oregon and Washington Processors' Ceilings Will Be Based on \$73 per Ton

An average grower price of \$73 per ton will be used in establishing processors' ceiling prices for the 1944 pack of canned and frozen pears packed in Oregon and Washington, the War Food Administration and the Office of Price Administration announced July 29.

The method used in establishing ceiling prices for canned and frozen pears should permit payment of the normal price differentials for the different grades of raw fruit normally purchased by processors, OPA said. On the basis of data obtained by the WFA, a price schedule, which represents the prices for the raw fruit that processors should be able to pay under their 1944 ceiling price structure, was established.

WFA officials said that payment of prices in accordance with the following schedule should result in an average grower price of \$73 per ton for pears used for canning and freezing if the proportion of the two grades is about normal: No. 1 grade, \$75; No. 2 grade, \$48. No. 1 canning pears are pears 2½ inches and larger in diameter and No. 2 canning pears are pears less than 2½ inches but not less than 2¼ inches in diameter.

Grower prices for pears are at growers' customary delivery points and are based on the customary canning grades, customary grading procedures, and customary tolerances for defects.

WFA announced that canners' eligibility for participation in the support program on canned pears, fruit mix and fruit cocktail containing pears, produced in Washington and Oregon, would be conditioned on the payment by canners to growers of not less than the prices specified in the above schedule for all purchases of pears for canning. The prices specified are minimum prices. Canners are not prohibited from paying more than the specified prices and it is anticipated that proper differentials above the announced prices will be paid for special lots of pears, such as those of extremely large size, which canners may wish to purchase for special purposes.



## MAXIMUM PRICES OF DRY BEANS TO BE INCREASED

### OPA to Permit Change in Ceilings to Allow for Increase in Parity

An increase in the maximum prices of dry edible beans to allow for parity increase since the ceilings were established has been announced by the Office of Price Administration. The agency also announced a complete revision of the pricing structure for dry edible beans and a slight increase in prices for certain grades of split peas to correct an error made in the original computations.

The action, effective August 3, is contained in Amendment 3 to Second Revised Maximum Price Regulation No. 270.

The total increase of 40 cents per hundred pounds in bean prices is the amount certified by the War Food Administrator as necessary to meet the increase in parity. Of this amount, 25 cents per hundred pounds is added to the former f.o.b. prices and 15 cents per hundred pounds is named as a margin for the first handler or dealer. (For dealers in Michigan the margin is 10 cents per hundred pounds.) For the three best known types of beans the new f.o.b. ceilings are:

U. S. No. 1 pea beans: \$6.05 per hundred pounds for processors and \$6.20 for dealers. The former ceiling was \$5.80.

U. S. No. 1 pinto beans: \$6.15 per hundred pounds for processors and \$6.30 for dealers. The former ceiling was \$5.90.

Choice hand picked red kidney beans: \$6.05 per hundred pounds for processors and \$6.80 for dealers. The former ceiling was \$6.40.

The only change made in the price of dried peas is to correct an error in the computation of the prices for split peas.

Three principal types of handlers of dry beans and peas—processors, dealers and "destination distributors"—are provided with maximum prices in the amendment.

Because of a difference in handling these products in California, Michigan and New York City, special considerations that are listed in the amendment are given dealers and destination distributors located in those sections.

### Pea and Bean Insect Conditions for the Week Ending July 22

The pea aphid situation in northern Wisconsin, as reported by the U. S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine for the week ending July 22, is not

threatening and very few insecticide treatments have been made. Cannons in that part of the State have just commenced packing their late or sweet peas. In central and southern Wisconsin the majority of the pea canners have completed operations. Pea aphid populations are reported generally light in Maine. Dusting operations for the pea weevil and the pea aphid have been completed in the commercial fields of Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Utah, and harvesting is well underway.

Mexican bean beetle populations and degree of damage can be characterized as light for the same period, according to the Bureau, in the territory from which reports were received. This territory included Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Maine, Delaware, New Jersey, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina. Moderate to heavy infestations occur in some parts of Colorado, northwestern North Carolina, eastern Tennessee, and northern Florida. Rotenone supplies apparently are adequate for Mexican bean beetle control.

Moderate to heavy infestations of the bean leafhopper occur on beans in New Jersey, northwestern North Carolina and eastern Tennessee, while the degree of damage and infestation by this insect in Wisconsin and Minnesota has decreased during the past week.

### Tomato and Corn Committees to Meet with OPA on Prices

Members of the Canned Tomatoes and Tomato Products Industry Advisory Committee have been invited to meet with officials of the Office of Price Administration on August 7 to discuss the application of pricing methods for the 1944 packs of tomatoes and tomato products. A similar meeting has been scheduled on August 10 for the Canned Sweet Corn Industry Advisory Committee. Meetings with red cherries, asparagus, spinach, and peas committees have been held previously.

### Truck Operators May Now Use Simplified Reporting Forms

Operators of motor trucks are required to keep records of the operation of all vehicles covered by certificates of war necessity although they may use simplified forms of their own, the Office of Defense Transportation announced July 26.

Forms 17 and 17-a, formerly required by the ODT for reports of operations and tire inspections, have been can-

celled and will no longer be supplied. Operators still having a supply of these forms, however, may continue to use them, the ODT said. All records will be subject to periodic inspections by ODT officials.

Information required of operators in keeping records of vehicle operations include a record of tire inspection for each vehicle; date of inspection; inspection station number, county and State; serial number or brand of tires requiring service and description of the required tire or vehicle services; certification of inspector that no service is necessary, or certification that such service as was required has been performed.

Tires must be inspected at the end of 5,000 miles of operation or at the end of six months, whichever comes first, the ODT said.

### WFA is Offering 116,000 Cases of Canned Corn for Sale

Approximately 116,000 cases (24/2's) of government-owned canned corn remain to be sold from the 391,214 cases recently released for the civilian trade, the War Food Administration has reported. This quantity is now being offered to all processors of canned corn. By grades and location the stocks are as follows:

2,200 cases Extra Standard golden—Canton, Ohio; Mt. Pleasant, Mich.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Toledo, Ohio.

4,700 cases Fancy golden—Youngstown, Ohio.

57,000 cases Extra Standard white—Detroit, Mich.; Memphis, Tenn.; West Newton, Pa.; Zanesville, Ohio.

30,000 cases Standard white—Wheeling, W. Va.; Memphis, Tenn.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Zanesville, Ohio.

6,900 cases Fancy white—Youngstown, Ohio.

13,000 cases Extra Standard (whole kernel)—Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

2,200 cases Standard golden—Youngstown, Ohio.

### Points are Restored on Corn

Effective July 30, ration points will be restored by the Office of Price Administration on canned corn. On vacuum-packed whole kernel corn, the point value of cans of 18 to 22 ounces will be 6 points, and on other styles of pack, 5 points. Other sizes of containers will be in proportion.

The OPA also announced that jams, preserves, or marmalades made from grapes or tomatoes or in combination with certain other fruits or flavors have been given a ration point value of zero.